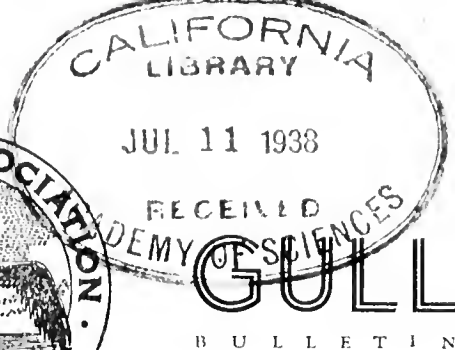


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# THE

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## The Pinnacles National Monument

William R. Adams and the writer left San Francisco on Saturday, May 28, at 4:30 a. m., for the Pinnacles National Monument. Driving via Gilroy, our destination was reached at 7:35 a. m., with the speedometer registering 135 miles. From Tres Pinos to Paicines, approximately four miles, a new road is under construction and when completed there will be an excellent highway the entire distance.

The coloring of the Pinnacles reminds one of the Grand Canyon, while its numerous and fantastic shapes recall Bryce Canyon.

The Lodge, at a pleasant elevation of about 1,200 feet, is centrally located near a creek with large oaks supplying protection from the sun, as well as making a delightful resting area. Rates are very reasonable. The recently constructed cabins, with hot and cold showers, are very conveniently situated along the creek's edge, where large oaks, sycamores, willows and buckeyes afford a natural habitat for several of the different species identified during our stay. This running creek is also the home of innumerable frogs which constantly croaked throughout the night.

The song of the Warbling Vireo was heard first with the Cassin following. The Western Wood Pewee's characteristic "pee-ee" was frequently heard, and also the Western Flycatcher's well known call, "pee-ist." The Ash-throated Flycatcher was much in evidence. The Black-headed Grosbeaks were numerous and their sweet melody usually greeted us at dawn, and frequently throughout the day.

As one approached the caves less than a mile distant from the Lodge, one was almost certain to hear the very shrill, unmistakable twitter of the White-throated Swift; many were seen and heard throughout our stay.

Never has the writer listened so often to the Canyon Wren's fascinating, descending scale of notes.

As one climbs out of the canyon the High Peak Trail leads through sagebrush, where the Bell Sparrows were numerous and at times their songs added to the pleasure of the walk. Here also we found the Western Gnatcatcher. Occasionally the Brown Thrasher greeted us with his varying and interesting song. The Bullock Oriole was nesting in the vicinity of the cabins.

Another surprise was the finding of the Long-tailed Chat in a small clump of willows about 200 yards below the entrance of the west caves. The first note heard was a splendid imitation of the "caw" of the crow. The clump of willows being small the bird was forced from it into a nearby oak from which he continued with his many and varied notes. Upon inquiry it was learned that the Chat had been recently seen, but only on one or two occasions.

The Prairie Falcon was seen twice—the first time perched on a large white rock which was on top of a pinnacle, thus an excellent view was obtained. The second time he was flying overhead not far distant so that a splendid opportunity was had to observe him closely. The writer learned that the Peregrine Falcon is also to be found in the park.

Yellow-billed Magpies and Phainopeplas were seen in the valley below the Pinnacles.

The following is a list of birds noted:

Turkey Vulture	Cabanis Woodpecker	Thrasher
Sharp-shinned Hawk	Arkansas Kingbird	Western Bluebird
Cooper Hawk	Ash-throated Flycatcher	Western Gnatcatcher
Red-tailed Hawk	Black Phoebe	Cassin Vireo
Prairie Falcon	Say Phoebe	Warbling Vireo
Sparrow Hawk	Western Flycatcher	Lutescent Warbler
Valley Quail	Wood Pewee	Long-tailed Chat
Killdeer	Violet-green Swallow	Pileolated Warbler
Band-tailed Pigeon	Cliff Swallow	Bullock Oriole
Mourning Dove	California Jay	Black-headed Grosbeak
Screech Owl	Raven	Lazuli Bunting
Horned Owl	Plain Titmouse	Purple Finch
Poorwill	Bushtit	House Finch
White-throated Swift	Slender-billed Nuthatch	Green-backed Goldfinch
Anna Hummingbird	Wren-tit	Spotted Towhee
Black-chinned	House Wren	Brown Towhee
Hummingbird	Bewick Wren	Lark Sparrow
Red-shafted Flicker	Canyon Wren	Bell Sparrow
California Woodpecker	Rock Wren	Junco

Joseph J. Webb, San Francisco, California. June 6, 1938.



## June Field Trip

The June trip started from Ross Station upon the arrival of the 8:45 from San Francisco. Before we were fairly on our way, an Anthony Green Heron flew overhead. It had been reported that a pair were nesting nearby. We spent some time in the little Memorial Park, then went across to the Ross Common and to the school grounds. From the school we strolled along Lagunitas Road, making one stop to visit the garden of Mrs. H. E. Cantlelow before reaching the lake. We stopped for luncheon at the usual place near the upper end of the lake. From there we went via the Shaver Grade to the top of the ridge, where in the canyon below, we heard the clear lovely notes of the Monterey Hermit Thrush.

The party divided at this point, one group taking the road to Fairfax, the other the trail that leads to Hidden Meadow, where we stopped to rest. It was a leisurely walk back to Phoenix Lake picnic grounds, where Mr. Otis H. Smith had coffee prepared for the nine who had brought their supper. The weather couldn't have been better—clear and sunny and not too warm.

In the Common at Ross, while looking at a Cassin Vireo's nest, we heard two sharp notes that seemed new to us. We decided that they were the shortened song "pi-deea" of the Traill Flycatcher. Mrs. Munson Deuprey, who is very familiar with these notes, confirmed our opinion.

A pair of Purple Martins above the hill on the north shore of Phoenix Lake was unusual and interesting as was also an immature Martin, indicating the pair may have nested near.

A parent Barn Swallow feeding a brood of five young perched on a wire at Phoenix Lake made an interesting study.

We did not see Spotted Owls as we had hoped nor the nest of a Pied-billed Grebe that we knew to be in the tules at the upper end of the lake. The list is as follows:

Anthony Green Heron	Coast Jay	Yellow Warbler
Turkey Vulture	Nicasio Jay	Black-throated Gray
Red-tailed Hawk	Western Crow	Warbler
California Quail	Nicasio Chickadee	Pileolated Warbler
Band-tailed Pigeon	Plain Titmouse	Black-headed Grosbeak

Anna Hummingbird	Coast Bush-tit	Purple Finch
Allen Hummingbird	Ruddy Wren-tit	House Finch
California Woodpecker	Western Robin	Pine Siskin
Willow Woodpecker	Monterey Hermit Thrush	Green-backed Goldfinch
Western Flycatcher	Russet-backed Thrush	Spotted Towhee
Olive-sided Flycatcher	Cassin Vireo	S. F. Brown Towhee
Violet-green Swallow	Warbling Vireo	Junco
Barn Swallow	Lutescent Warbler	Chipping Sparrow
Purple Martin		

Sixteen members attended the trip as follows: Messrs. and Mesdames Millard, Otis H. Smith, Stephens; Mesdames Courtright, Woolsey; Misses Cave, Cohen, Danz, Hunt, Papina, Werner; Messrs. Johnson and Wells with eight guests, namely Mesdames Anabel, Deuprey; Misses Feuhling, Strom, Swanson; Mr. O. C. Durham of Waukigan, Illinois; and Masters Bettoli and Fenyn.

Mary L. Courtright, Leader and Historian.



### Observations

Mrs. Munson Deuprey: Laurel Hill Cemetery, San Francisco, two California Jays, Ash-throated Flycatcher, May 29; Lincoln Park, two Olive-sided Flycatchers, May 12.

Miss Papina: Muir Woods, six Creepers, two Spotted Owls, Winter Wren, June 19.

Commander Parmenter: Since the last meeting Sooty Shearwaters have been seen on seven days. The longest line being from Land's End to near Montara had approximately 38,000 birds. They were passing by count at 310 birds per minute. One day there was a raft of at least 10,000 birds feeding between the Mile Rock Lighthouse and Baker's Beach. Another day there were three small rafts sitting quietly seaward of the Mile Rock Lighthouse. It was flood tide and as they drifted near the Lighthouse they arose and flew out to the ocean.

Brandt Cormorants: 500± nesting at Point Reyes Lighthouse rocks, June 6, and 200± on rocks off Devil's Slide, June 8. Baird Cormorants, 100± nesting on Point Reyes Lighthouse cliffs, June 6.

Anthony Green Heron: One at Drake's Estero, June 6.

Black Brant: At Tomales Bay, May 18, 20, 23 and 26 in numbers from 175 first date to 500 on the last date. Only eleven at Tomales Bay June 1 and eighteen on the 6th. Probably the bulk of the flock left between May 26 and June 1.

Marsh Hawk: One Tomales Bay, May 20; Osprey, Drake's Estero, June 6; Duck Hawk, Devil's Slide, June 8.

Avocets: Four Sear's Point Toll Road, May 12; fifty-three Alvarado, May 16.

Northern Phalarope: 1000± Alvarado, May 16; 1000± San Antonio Creek, May 20; 100± Tomales Bay and 200± San Antonio Creek, May 23.

California Murre: 1000± nesting at Point Reyes Lighthouse rocks, June 6; 75± nesting south of Point Pedro off Devil's Slide, June 8.

Pigeon Guillemot: Have been observed at Land's End since May 25 to date; 100± at Point Reyes Lighthouse, June 6.

Tufted Puffin: One at Land's End, June 4.

American Raven: Seven at Point Reyes Lighthouse, June 6.

Western Crow: One in Presidio, June 1.

Rock Wren: One at Point Reyes Lighthouse, June 6.

Mrs. Stephens: Opposite Devil's Slide, 150 to 200 Murres, June 5; on June 11 only about 100. A number of Baird Cormorants and about twelve Pigeon Guillemots also seen on the 5th, on the 11th hundreds of Brandt Cormorants, a pair of Ravens and a Black Swift.

Robert Taylor: Saint Mary's, Chat and Ring-necked Pheasant, May 14.

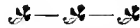


# Audubon Notes

**July Meeting:** The regular meeting will be held on Thursday evening, the 14th, at 8 o'clock, in room 19, Ferry Building. The speaker will be Mr. Rodney Ellsworth, whose subject will be "Birds of Mt. Diablo." Members may bring guests.



**July Field Trip** will be taken on Sunday, the 17th, in San Francisco. Meet at the end of the Municipal car "C" line, where party will form at 10 o'clock, and walk along the water's edge, taking in Land's End, Cliff House and continuing on to Golden Gate Park.



**June Meeting:** The 250th regular meeting was held on the 9th, in room 19, Ferry Building, with twenty-two members and guests present. Second Vice-President Mrs. H. P. Bracelin presided. The following new members were elected to membership: Mrs. Marion Foster of Berkeley and Mr. Balfour Spinks of Los Altos.

The speaker of the evening was Mr. O. S. Walsh, who took for his subject "Birding in Utah." Mr. Walsh gave a detailed account of the Bear River Refuge located in the Great Salt Lake region at the head of the Great Basin. It has an area of 165,000 acres. Fresh water lakes have been added by diking and leaching the water. The bird population has increased rapidly. Before the refuge existed a few Swans came into the region to nest for a month. In October of 1934 it was estimated that 10,000 Swans came to winter, remaining until March 20. In 1937 they arrived in October and remained until April.

Bitterns and Herons nest in the cottonwood bottoms, Cormorants on Craig and Antelope Islands, White Pelicans, Treganza Herons and California Gulls on Gunnison and Bird Islands. The newly made fresh water lakes have brought back the Franklin Gulls, 15,000 pairs nesting there. Several reels of motion pictures taken by Mr. Walsh were shown.



**Members:** Would you care if you didn't find "The Gull" in your mailbox each month, but instead just a post-card with dates of meetings and trips? Well, that is very likely to happen on account of the continued scarcity of material to print. For a long time it has been extremely difficult each month to have sufficient copy for another issue. Certain members have come to the rescue time and again, but we can't expect too much of a few; others I am sure can help. Vacation time is here and many interesting things will be seen. Just remember to jot them down or write an article and send it in. The Editor.

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## Audubon Association of the Pacific

Organized January 25, 1917

### For the Study and the Protection of Birds

President.....Mrs. G. Earle Kelly..... 1311 Grand St., Alameda, Calif.  
Corresponding Secretary.....C. B. Lastreto.....260 California St., San Francisco  
Treasurer.....Mrs. A. B. Stephens.....1695 Filbert St., San Francisco

Monthly meeting second Thursday, 8 P. M., Room 19, Ferry Building.

Address Bulletin correspondence to Mrs. A. B. Stephens, Editor, 1695 Filbert St., San Francisco.

Membership dues, payable January 1st, \$3.00 per year.

Student memberships, \$1.50 per year.

Life memberships, \$50.00.

Members are responsible for dues until written notice of resignation is received by Treasurer.